

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 18 through 24 with the following amended paragraph:

A block diagram of a portion of router 1 is shown in Figure 3. As shown, the router comprises a routing fabric 100 and line cards, each of which terminates a trunk and serves as a port between the trunk and routing fabric. For example, trunks 11-14 are terminated in line cards 41-44 ~~51-54~~. The figure shows the preferred embodiment in which the routing fabric is a three-dimensional torus interconnection network. One skilled in the art of router design will understand that other fabric topologies such as crossbars, multi-stage networks, and buses can also be used with composite trunking.